

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims.

**Listing of claims**

1-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously presented) An isolated protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) amino acid residues -28 to 53 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) amino acid residues -27 to 53 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (c) amino acid residues 1 to 53 of SEQ ID NO:2.

24. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 23, wherein the amino acid sequence is (a).

25. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 23, wherein the amino acid sequence is (b).

26. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 23, wherein the amino acid sequence is (c).

27. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 23 wherein the amino acid sequence further comprises a heterologous polypeptide.

28. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 23 wherein said protein is glycosylated.

29. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 23 wherein said protein is fused to polyethylene glycol.

30. (Currently amended) ~~An isolated~~ The protein of claim 23, which is produced by a recombinant cell method comprising:

- ~~(a) — expressing the protein of claim 23 by a cell; and~~
- ~~(b) — recovering the protein.~~

31. (Previously presented) A composition comprising the protein of claim 23 and a carrier.

32. (Previously presented) An isolated protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the full-length polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 97406;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the full-length polypeptide, excluding the N-terminal methionine residue, encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 97406; and
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the mature polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 97406.

33. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 32, wherein the amino acid sequence is (a).

34. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 32, wherein the amino acid sequence is (b).

35. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 32, wherein the amino acid sequence is (c).

36. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 32 wherein the amino acid sequence further comprises a heterologous polypeptide.

37. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 32 wherein said protein is glycosylated.

38. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 32 wherein said protein is fused to polyethylene glycol.

39. (Currently amended) ~~An isolated~~ The protein of claim 32, which is produced by a recombinant cell method comprising:

(a) ~~expressing the protein of claim 32 by a cell; and~~

(b) ~~recovering the protein.~~

40. (Previously presented) A composition comprising the protein of claim 32 and a carrier.

41. (Previously presented) An isolated protein consisting of a fragment of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said fragment is at least 30 contiguous amino acids in length.

42. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 41 wherein said fragment is at least 50 contiguous amino acids in length.

43. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 41 wherein the protein is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

44. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 41 wherein said protein is glycosylated.

45. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 41 wherein said protein is fused to polyethylene glycol.

46. (Currently amended) ~~An isolated~~ The protein of claim 41, which is produced by a recombinant cell method comprising:

(a) ~~expressing the protein of claim 41 by a cell; and~~

(b) ~~recovering the protein.~~

47. (Previously presented) A composition comprising the protein of claim 41 and a carrier.

48. (Previously presented) An isolated protein consisting of a fragment of the polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 97406, wherein said fragment is at least 30 contiguous amino acids in length.

49. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 48 wherein said fragment is at least 50 contiguous amino acids in length.

50. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 48 wherein the protein is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

51. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 48 wherein said protein is glycosylated.

52. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 48 wherein said protein is fused to polyethylene glycol.

53. (Currently amended) ~~An isolated~~ The protein of claim 48, which is produced by a recombinant cell method comprising:

- (a) ~~expressing the protein of claim 48 by a cell; and~~
- (b) ~~recovering the protein.~~

54. (Previously presented) A composition comprising the protein of claim 48 and a carrier.